

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Erik LABERGERIE, Philippe LEFEVRE and Jose LIS

Serial No.: Not yet assigned
(claiming priority of French Appln. No. FR 00 03954, filed March 29, 2000)

Filed: (on even date herewith)

For: **PULVERULENT MANNITOL AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING IT**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please substitute the following claims 6 and 7 for the pending claims 6 and 7:

Claim 6. (Amended) Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to Claim 1.

Claim 7. (Amended) Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to Claim 1.

Please add new claims 8 and 9 as follows:

Claim 8. (New) Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol as produced in Claim 4.

Claim 9. (New) Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol as produced in Claim 4.

CONCLUSION

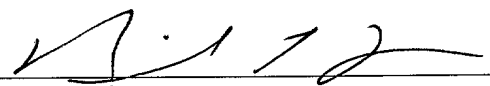
Favorable action is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, or wishes to discuss this matter, please contact the undersigned at the telecommunication numbers listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik LABERGERIE, Philippe LEFEVRE and Jose LIS

3-28-01
Date


Richard L. Fix
Reg. No. 28,297

HENDERSON & STURM LLP
206 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1213
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4076

Telephone: (515) 288-9589
Telefax: (515) 288-4860

Version with markings to show changes made

Claim 6. (Amended) Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to Claim 1 [or pulverulent mannitol as produced in Claim 4].

Claim 7. (Amended) Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to Claim 1 [or pulverulent mannitol as produced in Claim 4].